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See ad page 9

## Athletics bans use of cellular cameras

BY ADRIAN BAREK

The Centre for Physical Education (CPE) at UTM has banned the use of cell phones equipped with digital cameras in its facilities. The ban is in response to concerns being expressed nationwide about inappropriate photographs being taken in change rooms and work-out areas using cell phone cameras.

According to Andrew Bellerby, the program coordinator for CPE, no such problems have occurred at UTM, and the ban is in place as a preventative measure.

"To this date we have had no problems in terms of any inappropriate use of cell phones with cameras and that sort of thing on campus" he said. "But incidents have been reported at other athletic facilities in Canada so we felt the ban was appropriate."

Cell phones equipped with digital cameras are able to send pictures to other cameras via email as well as upload them to the Internet. This ability, coupled with the possibility of people taking pictures in change rooms has led to similar bans in many athletic facilities across North America.

Athletic facilities on the St. George campus have banned the devices, but UTM only prohibits the use of them.

"We looked at the possibility of banning those devices outright but that wasn't realistic because cameras will be integrated into all kinds of technology, whether they are phones, palm pilots and so on" Bellerby said. "All we can really do is ban the use of them and look to our members for support in reporting the inappropriate use of them."

## Toupee anyone?



photo/Mehraan Pavri

One sumo wrestler stands triumphantly in a thong and hockey gloves. The other contemplates defeat, or maybe just his hair piece? Donning some funny garb, these gents took part in WinterFest. Read more on page 3.

## Storms cancel classes

BY JULIE TYIOS

The recent wave of heavy snowfalls sweeping across southern Ontario forced UTM to cancel classes because of the dangerous conditions.

The Greater Toronto Area was hit with about 25 cm of precipitation and also numerous snow squalls, whiteouts and high winds, all of which accounted for the executive decision to close the campus twice last week.

The decision to close UTM on account of weather conditions lies with the Principal's office, Police Services and the Registrar's office. It is usually a uniform closure across all three U of T campuses when the weather is treacherous and the City of Toronto is hit hard by such storms.

The hardest hit days were Jan. 26 and 27, when UTM closed the campus early and cancelled a number of classes. UTM closed at approximately 5 p.m. on Monday, affecting the night classes; and 3 p.m. on Tuesday, affecting both afternoon and evening classes.

"When the school cancels classes, a lot of people have difficulty catching up," said Thomas Mathien, a philosophy professor. "One class can equal a week's worth of lectures and it's really hard to make it up, even though class attendance is usually fairly low this time of year anyway." With such grueling winter storms constantly battering campus, the conditions of the grounds make it hard for students to get around.

Blowing continued on page 4

## U of T fundraising generates \$1 billion

\$10 million gift from wealthy entrepreneur pushes six year campaign past \$1 billion goal

BY ADRIAN BAREK

The U of T announced last Thursday that it has achieved a fundraising milestone. The Campaign for the U of T, a fundraising initiative started in 1997, recently broke the \$1 billion mark. This goal of \$1 billion was reached one year ahead of schedule thanks to a \$10 million donation from Michael Lee-Chin, a wealthy Canadian businessman and CEO of AIC Ltd.

A press conference held on the St. George campus last week saw a small panel of U of T executives speak on the fundraising accomplishment. Among the speakers present were U of T president Robert Birgeneau, Dean of the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management Roger Martin, U of T VP and Chief Advancement officer Jon S. Dellandrea, and Tony Comper, Chairman and CEO of BMO Financial Group and the chairman of the campaign. As well as these speakers, Lee-Chin joined the press conference from Calgary via a satellite video link.

According to U of T, the total amount raised, \$1,004,021,766, is the largest fundraising effort in Canadian history. Before the campaign started in 1997, the single largest fundraising initiative by a Canadian university was completed by McGill, with \$200 million. At the start of the campaign, then-U of T president Robert Prichard set the campaign goal at \$500 million. This goal was nearly reached when current U of T president Robert Birgeneau set the sights higher, declaring the new goal of the campaign to be \$1 billion.

"This is a remarkable moment in the life of the university" Birgeneau said. He went on to thank Lee-Chin and other donors for their generosity as well as state that U of T must raise an additional \$1 billion over the next decade to remain competitive among world-class universities. The university spends very little of the \$1 billion itself, instead investing the majority in endowments and using the earnings to pay for such things as faculty salaries.

There is a multitude of seemingly impressive statistics that go along with the fundraising campaign.

Through the campaign's six year history, 107,000 donors contributed, with 45,000 of them being first-time donors. As a result of the fundraising, the number of endowed chairs for internationally recognized professors will increase from 15 to 175, and another 80 endowed chairs were created in partnership with affiliated teaching hospitals. In 1995, the university's endowment for student aid was \$68.7 million. This figure now rests close to \$500 million, and allows U of T to guarantee all qualified applicants entrance to the university despite financial hardship. This guarantee is not offered by any other Canadian university.

While the numbers are big, they pale in comparison to similar universities lying south of the border. According to Dellandrea, the best way to compare endowments between universities is to divide the total endowment by the number of students. U of T has approximately \$20,000 (USD) in endowment per student. Using comparisons with several American public universities, Dellandrea stated that Michigan has \$80,000 per student and Virginia has \$100,000 per student. Private schools in America are nearly off the chart in their endowments, with Harvard having \$875,000 per student and Princeton boasting \$1.35 million per student.

Despite the enormous sum of money, U of T executives are quick to state that the \$1 billion does not make the university rich.

"This does not translate into the university being rich, because the university is not rich" Dellandrea said. "This represents major, major strides on the private funding side. If we could achieve on the government funding side what we have achieved in the private funding side we would be in great shape."

Asked how the \$1 billion raised would benefit students, Dellandrea responded by citing U of T's unique guarantee that no qualified student will be prevented from entering or graduating the university because of a lack of financial resources. He also made reference to the quality of faculty that the university can attract and the buildings and other facilities that can be built with a combination of public and private funding.

"There is a lot of direct benefit to students" he said.

Some students at UTM are not convinced.

"They'll get screwed in the stock market like they did two years ago. I don't think students will see a dime of it, I think it all goes to research personally" said Ryan Carroll, a second year history student.

## What's Inside

Your Money

2

Jersey

9

Mens' Soccer

14

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Awesome doesn't even begin to describe it - it was a mind-fuck!"  
- Audience member reaction to Erindale Drama Club performance of *The Atmosphere of Evil* at U of T Drama Festival

## MONDAY MOVIES

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Toy Story: 7:00 - Monsters Inc.: 7:00 - Wedding Planner: 5:00 - Romeo & Juliet: 7:00

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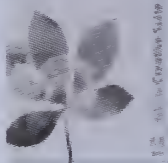
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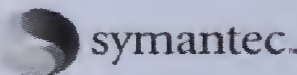


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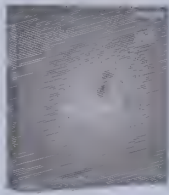


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# How does U of T spend your money?

By ADRIAN BAREK

Ever wonder how ECSU, a small student government, can afford to operate the Blind Duck Pub? Or how the Athletics Department manages to buy all that fancy exercise equipment? The answer, simply, is that you pay for them. In fact, there are numerous buildings, organizations, and services on campus that are funded solely by students.

If you are a full time undergraduate student attending Erindale College, you pay an annual fee of \$771.10 for what the university calls *compulsory non-academic incidental fees*. Basically, this fee represents money paid by you to fund the many aspects of the university's operation not directly related to academics. While your tuition pays for such things as professors' salaries, library books, and building maintenance, your incidental fees subsidize the cost of the shuttle bus, pay for doctors at Health Services, and help us cover the costs of printing the paper you now hold in your hands.

Given the recent publicity and pride U of T has devoted to its \$1 billion fundraising campaign, we at *The Medium* thought you, the UTM student, might like a better idea how the university spends your money. Below you will find a break-down of the \$771.10. This information was provided by Christine Capewell, UTM's manager of Business Services.

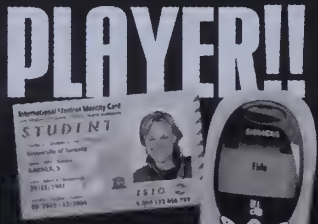
Fee Description	Campus	Fee
1. Campus Fees		
Student Service Fee:		
Athletics Space	UTM	\$38.66
Bus	UTM	\$71.00
Career Centre	UTM & UT	\$76.24
Child Care	UTM	\$1.43
Health Service	UTM & UT	\$2.12
Psychiatric Service	UT	\$0.08
Space Occupied by Student Societies	UTM & UT	\$21.76
Alcohol Use Monitoring	UTM	\$2.16
Handbook	UT	\$2.00
First Nation's House	UT	\$1.07
International Student Centre	UT	\$1.76
Counselling & Learning Skills	UT	\$1.98
Housing Services	UT	\$0.96
Mediation		\$0.14
Total Student Service Fee:		\$221.36
Other Campus Fees:		
Athletics St. George	UT	\$24.48
Hart House	UT	\$3.56
Health Service	UTM	\$35.00
Cancopy License	UT	\$3.00
UTM Athletics	UTM	\$99.04
UTM Athletics Building Levy	UTM	\$25.76
Subtotal - Campus Fees		\$412.20
2. Student Society Fees		
UTMAC	UTM	\$8.60
The Medium	UTM	\$7.26
ECSU	UTM	\$24.26
SAC	UTM	\$33.80
SAC - Accident/Sickness Insurance	UT	\$83.16
SAC Dental Plan	UT	\$118.56
VIBE Radio	UTM	\$4.00
U of T Community Radio	UTM	\$1.00
The Varsity	UT	\$1.26
UTM Library Enhancement	UTM	\$10.00
Student Centre	UTM	\$52.00
Subtotal - Student Society Fees		\$343.90
3. Student Sytem Access Fee:		\$15.00
Total Incidental Fees:		\$771.10

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# ECC Meeting

By DANIEL FILIPE MARTINS

Last week, UTM staff, students and administrators got their first real peek at the concept designs for the proposed UTM Wellness Centre at the monthly Erindale College Council (ECC) meeting on January 29. The presentation, made by representatives of architectural firm of Shore Tilbe Irwin & Partners, provided detailed plans of the new centre and its myriad features, due to be complete in August 2006 and also included images of the proposed new Academic Learning Centre.

The triple-storey Wellness Centre will be built on the east side of the South Building, overlooking the open field, and will comprise approximately 75,000 sq. ft. of space, connecting with UTM's present Athletics Centre on levels zero through two. The facility will include vastly increased space for exercise machines, including an 180



# WinterFest brings students together

BY MASHA SKVIRTCHAK

Most students at Erindale remember last Monday because that's when the cold weather really hit. Some classes were cancelled, traffic increased and the line at Tim Hortons was longer than usual. For some, however, the cold weather and snow was the source of fun, not frustration. This is because of WinterFest, which was held in the Student Center and several other locations around campus.

The entertaining event was organized by UTM's two primary student governments: the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) and the Erindale College Student Union (ECSU).

Budgeted at roughly \$1,700, the activities included an inflatable castle, sumo wrestling, X-Box gaming courtesy of Microsoft and lots of free food. Several outdoor activities such as an artificial ice rink were cancelled due to weather conditions, but according to Katherine Kormos, ECSU's services coordinator, they are being rescheduled.

"I'm glad to see the participation," she said. "Too bad the weather stopped the ice rink. I would like to see that up and running next week."

WinterFest started at noon and lasted until 4 p.m., ending with a raffle and prize giveaway. A handful of small prizes were handed out and three lucky winners took home DVD players after being picked in the grand prize draw.

At the entrance to the Student Center, students were given score

cards that included 10 hot spots and five trivia questions. The goal of each participant was to visit as many of these spots as possible, which were located around the entire campus.

The spots included registration, the X-Box station, the Women's Center, sumo wrestling, a big walking lizard, a homeless persons demonstration, a pizza and pop fundraiser for the Canadian Relief Foundation of the Iran Earthquake victims, Katherine Kormos and the SC Events Office. Three of the hot spots were actual people (taken from the list above), who would mark students' score card if the students found and asked them.

One particularly noticeable element of WinterFest was the big walking lizard, who stood out of the crowd in his big fluffy outfit and enormously large green head. It was later revealed that underneath all the layers, which kept him warm in this cold weather, was a fellow named Ziggy. Ziggy is the UTeaM Mascot. UTeaM is one of seven ministries operating under SAC. Ziggy expressed enthusiasm about the event.

"It turned out great. Better than expected. We got game! We are here to raise UTM's spirit. Ziggy is pimping UTM."

SAC and ESCU had a specific mission to accomplish. One of the important issues raised is that an event like this had the potential to bring residence and commuter students together and raise team spirit. Another important reason was to profile the spots of the campus, such as the Women's Center in the North Building and all of the residences on campus. Part of the trivia questionnaire was to find out whether students are aware of simple facts, such as who runs Monday Movies as well as which location on campus offers the cheapest photocopying.

WinterFest included a Homelessness Presentation, which consisted of several volunteers walking around with cardboard while dressed in ripped layers of clothing.

The presentation was designed to demonstrate and raise awareness of the issues of homelessness, a critical issue during the cold winter months. A winter jacket and a blanket drive has been organized to help solve the problem. The donations of winter items may be made in the SAC office and other spots, which will be positioned around the campus until the end of the winter.

When asked about the process of organizing such a grand event, Yasser Zia, a third year computer science stu-



photo/Mehraan Pavri

dent and a coordinator of WinterFest said, "Mature and effective leadership! That's all it takes." Zia also wished to show his appreciation for all the hard work, "thanks to Jason at SC events, the entire SAC committee, the ESCU executives and our wonderful volunteers." Jason Borchenko, a special project director at ESCU was particularly happy with the turnout of the WinterFest.

"The enthusiasm and energy of this event by far exceeds our expectations and clearly shows what a great success we've had with WinterFest," he said.

"SAC and ESCU really have outdone themselves. Even with the weather like this the turnout was still quite an accomplishment, I'm impressed. I love UTM," Rajiv Joshi, a first year management student said.

Despite the weather conditions, the vibe felt around WinterFest was one of success. The event allowed residence and commuter students to come together, meet, and share in mutual fun. With the efforts of both organizations, SAC and ESCU, WinterFest succeeded at raising the awareness of homelessness in Toronto, as well as profiling hot spots of the Erindale campus and simply showing how to have fun during the wintertime.

## New buildings and budgets on agenda

continued from previous page

metre indoor track and an eight lane, adjustable-depth pool. In addition, new change rooms will be added for women, family and special needs patrons. UTM students will bear much of the financial cost of its construction, in the form of a \$150 levy included in tuition fees which could be in place for as long as 25 years.

The Academic Learning Centre will be built near, and will be connected to, the new CCIT building and will comprise 95,000 sq. ft. and rise three-and-a-half stories. The centre, which will replace the current UTM library, will be fully wired (with wireless capabilities) and will feature approximately 70 per cent more study space than the current facility. Like the Wellness Centre, it is tentatively scheduled for completion in August 2006.

Also on the agenda for the meeting were the ancillary budgets for parking, conference, food and residence services. In addition, ECC members passed a set

of guidelines for the evaluation of teaching, focusing on promotions to Full Professor, promotions to Senior Lecturer and tenure review.

The Erindale College Council was

created in 1971, and its duties range from developing policy regarding academic affairs at UTM to ratifying student society constitutions to awarding scholarships and bursaries.

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# Campus Police Reports

## UTM CAMPUS POLICE SUMMARIES

Jan. 16 - 30, 2004

Fri. Jan 16, 2004 @ 1:42 a.m.  
Student Centre - Blind Duck Pub

Campus Police investigated three separate thefts of personal property. The owners left their property unattended while performing at a concert.

Fri. Jan. 17, 2004 @ 7:10 a.m.  
South Building - Meeting Place

A male not affiliated with the University was investigated for trespassing and subsequently was issued with a Provincial Offences Ticket and escorted from the property.

Sun. Jan. 18, 2004 @ 1:50 a.m.  
McLuhan Court

University Police attended a noise complaint and on the second occurrence requested the tenants of the unit to close down their party. The guests left the unit without and further complaints being received.

Mon. Jan. 19, 2004 @ 2:41 p.m.  
Construction Access Road

University Police issued a Provincial Offences Ticket to a driver that had been stopped on the construction access road. The roadway is to be exclusively utilized by construction vehicles only.

Mon. Jan. 19, 2004 @ 6:05 p.m.  
Inner Circle Road

University Police investigated a motor vehicle accident that occurred between two vehicles. A vehicle backing out from metered parking inadvertently struck another vehicle. University Police assisted the drivers in completing a Self Reporting Collision Report. There were no injuries.

Tues. Jan. 20, 2004 @ 5:15 p.m.

### Parking Lot # 9

University Police investigated a vehicle that had been tampered with and entry had been gained into the vehicle. Several items had been stolen and theft was estimated at \$ 430.00.

Tues. Jan. 20, 2004 @ 9:20 p.m.  
South Building - Meeting Place

University Police investigated a male who had damaged a vending machine inside the Meeting Place. The male agreed to pay Aramark Foods for the repairs to the machine.

Wed. Jan. 21, 2004 @ 2:20 p.m.  
North Building - Cafeteria

University Police attended a fire alarm at the North Building. A heat sensor located in the kitchen had been set off. The area was checked and the system was reset.

Thurs. Jan. 22, 2004 @ 10:22 a.m.  
South Building - Exterior Sign

University Police filed a report on a sign that had been defaced with spray paint. University Police are investigating this matter.

Thurs. Jan. 22, 2004 @ 1:00 p.m.  
Outer Circle Road - Near Lot # 4

University Police investigated a vehicle that had slid off the roadway and struck a traffic sign. A Self Collision Report was completed by the driver. The driver was not injured.

Fri. Jan. 23, 2004 @ 1:45 a.m.  
McGrath Valley

University Police were summoned to attend a noise complaint at a townhouse unit. University Police spoke with the tenant and no further noise complainants were received.

Sat. Jan. 24, 2004 @ 12:40 a.m.

### Erindale Hall

A male student was trespassing at Erindale Hall, Phase 7, he was asked to leave by the University Police and he complied.

Sat. Jan. 24, 2004 2:07 p.m.  
South Building - Mechanical Room

There was a fire alarm activated in the mechanical room on fifth floor of the South Building and the University of Toronto Police investigated the incident.

Sun. Jan. 25, 2004 @ 12:50 a.m.  
Noise Complaint: Roy Ivor Hall

University Police received a noise complaint. The officers attended and asked the tenants of the unit involved to keep the noise down and they were cautioned.

Sun. Jan. 25, 2004 @ 4:37 p.m.  
Campus-wide Power Failure

University Police received various alarm signals due to the power failure on two occasions on this date. The University Police was advised by the Mississauga Fire department that the power outages were city wide. Power outages last about two seconds each time it happened.

Sun. Jan. 25, 2004 @ 8:40 p.m.  
Parking Lot 6

Dangerous driving Residence Road near parking lot 6. A resident female complained about a dangerous driver, on residence road. University Police later found the driver and cautioned him driver about his driving habits.

Fri. Jan. 23, 2004 @ 11:35 p.m.

### Roy Ivor Hall

A suspicious person was reported to the University Police. University Police attended at Roy Ivor Hall. The suspicious person was gone on arrival of UTM Police.

Mon. Jan. 26, 2004 @ 11:45 a.m.  
Personal Injury

Personal Injury was reported to the University Police by a female student who left the Colman Place, she fell on the stairs going down to the Residence Road.

Tues. Jan. 27, 2004 @ 7:15 p.m.  
Trespassing to Property Act

Three persons were charged by University Police for trespassing using the Construction Road. The signs are posted construction vehicle only.

Mon. Jan. 26, 2004 @ 5:30 p.m.  
Theft Under \$ 5000

University Police received a wallet as a lost and found item and the owner was notified, when the owner attended to claim, it was determined that \$90 in Canadian currency was missing from the wallet. Peel Regional Police and University Police are investigating the matter.

Tues. Jan. 27, 2004 @ 12:00 p.m.  
Persistent phone calls/e-mails

University Police received a report from a Professor that someone was communicating with him via phone/e-mails. University Police investigated the incident.

## Blowing Snow

continued from front

Although Facility Resources works around the clock at night to keep the campus as clean and safe as possible, students are still advised to walk and drive with caution.

"It's still very slippery while walking," warned Len Paris, manager of Police Services. "The grounds department is doing their best to clear the snow to make it safe for people to walk."

Campus police have had to deal with a number of snow-related incidents, resulting from poor and slippery conditions. On Jan. 22, a driver skidded off-road in the Outer Circle and hit a sign, causing excessive damage to her car. On Jan. 26, a residence student from Roy Ivor Hall slipped on the path leading from Coleman House. The student received a back injury from the fall.

Paris advised that people exercise caution while driving on campus. "Around this time of year we see quite a few minor car accidents in the lots, or from people turning out onto the roads after a snow pile has built up that obstructs vision, but we also see a lot due to careless driving. People need to slow down while driving and be aware."

The majority of complaints regarding snow removal in certain areas from students and families in residence. Most of the snow removal in parking lots and on campus roads can only be done at night by grounds keeping staff when fewer cars are present on campus. Paris also requested that students who have cars parked in residence lots should move their cars to a normal lot overnight in order to make it easier for the plows to clear them, and that anyone who does so will not be ticketed as a result. Priority first goes to clearing the main roads and the larger parking lots to ensure proper traffic flow for commuters, with residence lots lower down on the list.




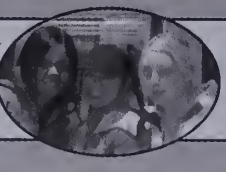
On top of a multitude of snow and ice-related problems, the recent winter storm also caused blackouts in and around the Mississauga area, two of which affected UTM. Although no damage was reported during the minute-long power outages, they were still cited as an inconvenience by staff and students.

"Driving in general was a pain, it wasn't as bad on campus although it was still a bit slippery" commented Ian Howe, a fourth year student. "Parking was a bit of a bitch and it sucked that class was cancelled, but that's what happens when you live in Canada during the winter," he joked.

"All I know is that I'm ready for June," commented student Natalie Sirota. "I hope this all goes away soon."

**Question of the week**


**"What would you do with \$1 billion?" (And don't start singing the Barenaked Ladies' song!)**

<p><b>Thomas Karebs,</b> 4th year political science student and Blind Duck bartender extraordinaire</p>	 <p>"I'd pay off half of my OSAP."</p>
<p><b>Rosanna Reutter,</b> 3rd year psychology student</p>	 <p>"I'd have sex on the billion dollars."</p>
<p><b>Norielyn Romano,</b> 1st year health science student</p>	 <p>"I would make Ashton Kutcher my personal exotic dancer."</p>
<p>"We would travel everywhere, give money to charity, and then give money to our moms."</p>	 <p>(L to R) <b>Selicia Mings, Aislinn Elep, and Andrea Jagodzinski,</b> Triumvirate de Arteests</p>

photos/Adrian Barek

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## Work Abroad Panel: Wednesday, Feb. 4, 1:00-3:00.

Location: Student Centre Boardroom. More info @ [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers)

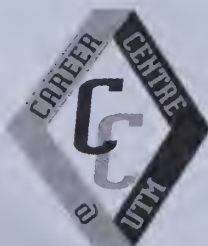
Royal & SunAlliance Info Session: Feb. 2, 12:00-1:00, Student Centre Boardroom.

Medical School Info Session: Wednesday, Feb. 4, 11:00-12:00, Career Centre.

Consumer Impact Marketing Info Session: Feb. 4, 4:00-6:00, Student Centre Boardroom.

Now That I'm Graduating, What's Next? Thursday, Feb. 5, 2:00-3:00, Career Centre.

CAREER CENTRE @ UTM More events listed at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers)





## EDITORIAL

## THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 18

CIRCULATION 5000

FEBRUARY 2, 2004

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## U of T hits the jackpot

Is it better to give or receive? Well, that depends. When it comes to money, most of us would rather be on the receiving end.

Michael Lee-Chin likes to give. He's an angel in disguise. Thanks to the generosity of Lee-Chin, the University of Toronto reached a historic milestone. Since the launch of U of T's campaign in 1997, the university raised a whopping \$1 billion. Lee-Chin's gift of \$10 million is one of the largest U of T has ever received. It's the largest fundraising campaign in Canadian history and more favorably, it was raised more than a year ahead of schedule. This is a celebration indeed, especially when receiving financial support has become such a struggle.

So who is Lee-Chin? Born in Jamaica, Lee-Chin immigrated to Canada in the 1970s to study civil engineering at McMaster University. In 1977 he joined the financial services industry. In 1986 he purchased the Advantage Investment Council, renamed the company to AIC and increased the company's \$1 million dollar assets to more than \$12.8 billion.

Lee-Chin's gift will be used to create the AIC Institute of Leadership at U of T's Joseph L. Rotman School of Management.

Good news continues to flow out of U of T. Before the campaign began the university had 15 endowed chairs. That number has grown to 175 endowed chairs plus 85 joint U of T chairs. Endowed student aid jumped from \$68.7 million in 1995 to \$463 million today – making U of T Canada's only university that guarantees financial accessibility to its students.

Donations such as the one from Lee-Chin will continue to make U of T one of the top teaching facilities, not only in the country, but in the world. Now that's something to be proud of. The money will be used to position U of T among the world's best. Opportunities will be created and programs will be created for future U of T students.

Overall, the campaign included 107,000 donors, which include alumni, friends, corporations, foundations and organizations. Alumni constituted for nearly 43 per cent of the donor base whereas more than 46 per cent were first time donors to the campaign. Gifts from nearly 200 individuals, corporations and foundations met or exceeded \$1 million.

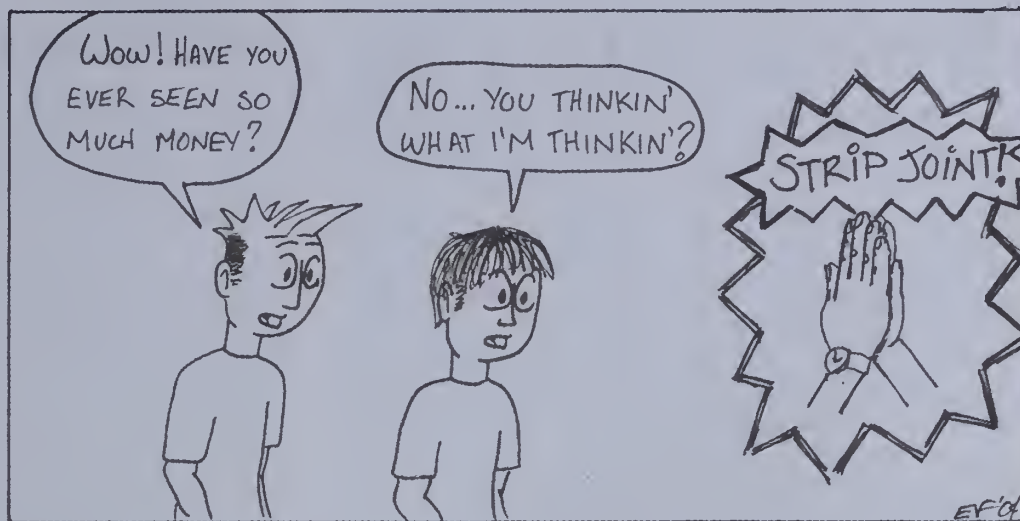
"True leaders at the helm of today's global organization need to integrate social citizenship into their vision," Lee-Chin said. "It's important for businesses to give back to society." If it's so important, why aren't businesses following his lead? Why can't profitable businesses invest in the future of our youth? Doesn't it feel good to contribute to something worth while, regardless of the monetary value?

Lee-Chin urges others to follow his lead. This is not the first time he's opened his wallet to benefit a worthy cause. He made a \$30 million donation to the Royal Ontario Museum, \$5 million dollars to McMaster University and \$1 million towards a cancer clinic in Burlington. Why does he keep on giving? Because he believes.

Why is it important to give back? If other leaders in our society followed the example of Lee-Chin, universities would be equipped with the necessary tools and items to stimulate knowledge and growth. These kind people give students the things they need but can't afford. Contributing to post-secondary institutions is indeed an investment. As the government continues to cut spending, the kind gestures of philanthropists are needed more than ever before.

Philanthropy creates good things. Philanthropists give back to society, they lead and they inspire. Let's hope that U of T will do great things with this enormous amount of money. Just like Lee-Chin, our students deserve to lead and inspire.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. Disappearance of staff members courtesy of Super Bowl.



## Opposition towards hijab legislation

Dear Editor,

(Re: 'UTM students join in protest of French ban on religious signs,' *The Medium/Issue 17/Volume 30*)

On Jan. 17, 2004, Muslims, human rights activists and other people of conscience took to the streets to protest the ban on all overt religious symbols including the hijab (headscarf). Unfortunately, I could not make the rally but I am in staunch opposition to this legislation as a woman who wears the hijab.

Let us take a moment to discuss this issue of a separation of church and state. Sunday is still considered a day of rest in many places, and we still have statutory holidays on days which coincide with Christian holidays such as Christmas, and Easter. The United States currently has a President, which constantly invokes religious rhetoric to justify his nation's imperialistic aspirations. The European Union has been reluctant to accept Turkey, since it wants to keep the E.U. as an 'exclusively Christian club'. Is this secularism?

Members of the French Parliament are also invoking 'the hijab is oppres-

sive and has no place in a democracy' argument. If the hijab is a symbol of oppression, then why are so many in the West choosing to wear it, out of their own free will? Does a woman wearing daisy dukes and a tube top have more rights than me?

Most Western women have become oppressed by the rigid standards of beauty portrayed by popular media. This unhealthy obsession with beauty has led women to spend thousands on cosmetic surgery, anti-aging products and cosmetics.

Celebrity worship has made people strive for unrealistic standards, leading to eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia. One just has to tune into America's latest freakshow, *Extreme Makeover*, to realize the Western obsession with beauty. Is this your idea of a liberated woman?

For some women, strutting around in next to nothing is freedom. For me, liberation is strutting about in my abaya (long Islamic dress) and my hijab. The hijab is emancipation and freedom. This ensures that I am judged for my mind, not for my body and looks.

It's just unfortunate that the French government is using the hijab ban to

deal with its fear and paranoia of 'fundamentalism'. Chirac's government has alienated eight per cent of the French population with this racist legislation.

This will lead to a harsh backlash, adding fuel to the already deep-seated mistrust and anger towards the West in the Muslim World. This is why I urge my fellow students to be champions of religious tolerance and write to the French government. This is not just a Muslim issue; this is an issue for all of humanity. Sign petitions! Join the rallies! Let us stand in solidarity with these French women. The right to an education is a human right. I fear the day when I am told that I can not enter the university, until I remove my hijab.

My fellow students, if I had to choose between my faith and the laws of the state, know this. Islam will always come first for me. Muslim women should not have to sacrifice their morals and beliefs for the racist and biased laws of France, of Turkey, of Germany or anywhere else!

Sirad Shirdon  
3rd Year History

## SAC invites students to AGM at UTM

Dear Editor,

UTM steps it up!

As a result and acknowledgment of the great achievements accomplished by the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) UTM Commission, a monumental event is to take place here on our grounds.

On Feb. 5, 2004 SAC will hold its highest decision making meeting the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the South Building. This move by SAC's Board of Directors is unprecedented because the AGM has never been held at UTM.

The SAC represents students from all colleges and faculties on all the three campuses and holding

the AGM at UTM is a sign of respect and acknowledgment of all the hard work done by the UTM commission and its student members.

This year the UTM Commission of SAC has over 60 members, more than all the other councils at UTM combined as well as larger than the SAC Board itself.

Previously, UTM students had to travel downtown for the AGM, which has always been dominated by St. George students. This year UTM students will have their say. Some of the major issues that SAC will be addressing at their AGM is a new constitution, taking a stance on the War on Iraq and its financial status.

The AGM being the highest decision making body for SAC has the

sole right to change the structure of SAC, whereas it can change everything from the number of executives to the number of people it represents.

At this meeting all fulltime undergraduates can vote.

UTM has always fought for respect and equality when it goes downtown to Board meetings and this year we are finally getting it. I urge all full time students to come to the AGM and let their voices be heard.

This is our chance to demonstrate to the rest of the university the spirit and will of the students at UTM.

Gengiz Seyhun  
SAC UTM VP

## Letters Policy

Letters to the editor will be edited for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-

in-chief, other editors and staff, or The Medium's Board of Directors. In other words, just because we print it doesn't necessarily mean we agree with it. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to The Medium presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk or e-mail medium@canada.com.



ut adrian - a party inside hope - a host wish I were there - can't wait to drink my section is alive in done - have 1 pages too brownish to my complaining - steph, cute ground  
hugs - darryl - for the layout great job as usual - medium gang - paper has been looking fantastic - i'm happy - sun - johana is passed - her 'everything huge' looks like a plan  
hugs - adrian - called - his tardiness as a result of having a hangover - no worries news - gay - darryl - keeping me posted on the rapier trade - zazar must be passed - marina  
(and) while watching the drama festival at hart house - marina - is on a roll with the edits - sorry for Sunday copy editing - johana is wrapping me with her rendition of 'I had a  
million dollars - cheer up me - zazar - that above spinning in - rappers - adrian is going to make a fur style - is perfect - he's having a name on the middle of the office - i don't think  
he needs alcohol to bounce up where - darryl - in hungry - thanks - for returning my e-mail message - marina - darryl - is into the - i hope you moved a good one darryl when you left  
the office - hah - good one marina - thank for the ad - steph - now comes your turn - adrian - likes it when people talk - the hand cause the face due - i want to hear it - marina is  
ready - you like try to adrian - adrian is ready to love marina - the boys don't know he's like - hear the who - said - zazar - is coming from - johana - i want to hear it - we all love  
steph - zazar - darryl - i feel bad adrian - you work hard - i'm thinking - what - would do with one billion dollars - here a new sports editor for starters.



## Students left in the dark over spending at U of T

## OPINION

By Nadia Rajahbalee

You love the smell, sound, sight and most importantly the feel of it. What am I talking about? I'm talking about that one thing that makes anyone and everyone smile. I'm talking about M-O-N-E-Y. There isn't a day that goes by that we don't think about it. They say money can't bring you happiness, but I beg to differ. No one can deny that money can definitely ease the stress of a university student.

Everyday we are confronted with money issues, from buying a textbook to going out for lunch. It becomes a situation based on compromise and for most of us it bears a headache. Unfortunately, we don't live in a province or a country where everyone has an equal opportunity to get a post-graduate education. Therefore, many people just postpone the whole

thought of a post-graduate education altogether. Some students may also decide to fight the good battle of increasing tuition fees.

Both full time and part time students work seven days a week to keep up with schoolwork to maintain or upgrade to that desired GPA. On top of that, many of us have to sacrifice the social aspects of university life. However, when it comes to gaining an education we like to look at the positive sides.

We know that giving up little sacrifices such as shopping, clubbing and the movies are helping us make an investment for a career.

For every dollar we invest at UTM we expect to get at least a hundred times that back in the future. Many working classmates say they invest a minimum of 15 to 20 hours a week at work and on top of that 40 to 50 hours a week on schoolwork. The point here is that students sweat hard to gain the

measly seven dollars per hour to pay for their tuition fees. If education is such a great investment then why are

**"As a form of respect, I believe students should be asked and not told what to do with their money."**

so many students complaining?

Various students at UTM are upset with tuition fees because they are checking their invoices and realizing they are paying for numerous fees that are not at all applicable to their welfare at UTM. To begin, classmates have complained about small fees of two dollars going to the VIBE radio

station and fifty cents going to the U of T community radio station every semester. Yes, this may sound petty to many people, but there are people who could use that cash for lunch, bus fares or just for savings for the future. Every dollar adds up.

Most people have never even listened to the UTM radio station yet alone know the radio dial. Furthermore, the UTM athletics council is claiming approximately nine dollars from us every semester. My classmates do not even use the gym. Some of them have never touched a weight in their lives.

The main issue here is that many students are frustrated with not knowing where their money goes. Invoice formats on Rosi do not help. Some of the subheadings are so vague; they convey no insight on where our money is being spent.

Furthermore, working students are also angered by having to pay shared

fees like maintenance of the gym when they do not even have the time to use these facilities. Although, it is understandable that there are fees that need to be paid to ensure that UTM operates effectively, it's time for the SAC to implement a plan that will give students the opportunity to choose on what they want to invest their money in. They need to substantiate and clarify in writing, in a pamphlet perhaps once or twice a year about what is precisely being done with our money.

As a form of respect, I believe students should be asked and not told what to do with their money.

As U of T students we all know that working hard is not a choice but rather an obligation to get through our years here.

But while we are here, let's make a difference by negotiating and talking about lowering our fees. We all deserve a break.



### FELLOWSHIP IN ADVANCEMENT at THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Are you a recent or soon-to-be graduate?  
Are you interested in a career that involves:

MARKETING  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
SPECIAL EVENT and VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT  
COMMUNICATIONS  
PHILANTHROPY?

Are you interested in helping the University of Toronto rank among the leading international public research and teaching universities?

If so, consider the field of Advancement. Advancement is the term used to describe the activities of fundraising, alumni and public relations, among others, that help to harness the financial and human resources required to advance the goals of the University.

During this 12 month internship, one successful candidate will receive exposure to all aspects of university Advancement functions through specific program assignments, job shadowing and mentoring, extensive professional development opportunities, on-campus work placements, and visits to other Canadian universities.

The 12 month internship will begin September 2004. The fellow will receive a monthly stipend of \$2800 and, based on successful performance, the possibility of longer term employment.

Application deadline: Friday, February 27, 2004  
To download the application visit:

[www.alumni.utoronto.ca/stayconnected/career.htm](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/stayconnected/career.htm)

Paper copies of the application form are available at the front desk:

J. Robert S. Prichard Building  
21 King's College Circle  
between 9:00am - 5:00pm  
or contact Sharon Brumer at  
(416) 946-8371 or  
[sharon.brumer@utoronto.ca](mailto:sharon.brumer@utoronto.ca)

Commuters exhausted  
over parking problems

## OPINION

By Sonya Hessels

No matter what season it is, there is consistently a parking problem at UTM. Every year someone writes to the paper, or *The Medium* publishes an article on some parking issue that voices the concerns of hundreds of commuting students.

Unfortunately, each year the ineptness of the UTM parking department or maintenance staff prevails, as there are always new and constant problems. Is it really so hard to manage a few parking lots and the campus grounds? Why does managing parking at UTM appear to be the equivalent of advanced calculus?

With every act of incompetence on behalf of the campus staff in regards to parking, the students are always the ones to pay the price. Currently, their suffering takes multiple forms including frustration, missed classes and most recently, the endangerment of personal safety.

In case you haven't noticed yet, the current issue is plowing. Plowing the lots, plowing the walkways, and plowing the steps.



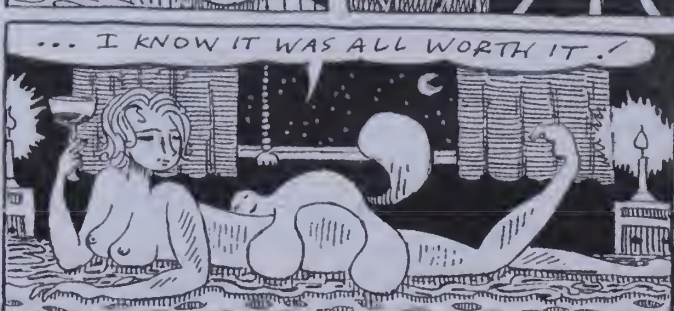
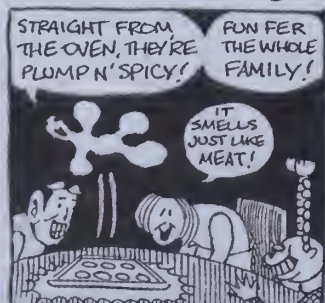
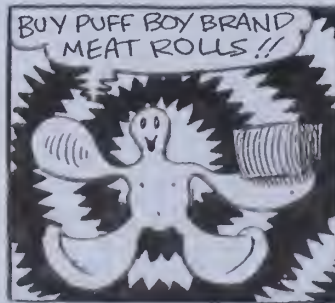
First of all, why would the school decide to plow lot nine at 10:30 a.m. when most students are arriving at school? Secondly, the plowing job completed on the now quickly filling up lot eight is atrocious as every row becomes a dead end when snow plows create 10 f.t. snow banks that cover up numerous spots at the end of each row, as well as block the access around the rows within the lot. With one closed lot (that should have been cleared before 9 a.m.) and no way around the other lots that are also quickly filling up, students are forced to double park or create their own spots, further blocking off access throughout the lots.

As if that isn't enough, students are then forced to trudge up unplowed, un-salted and slippery walkways to get to the school, only to finish their impossible journey with a pseudo-mountain climb up a flight of un-plowed stairs.

The condition of the stairs is just ridiculous. You can't even step on them normally, let alone safely. They're buried under so much snow... and it's not like the slippery metal railing helps any either. I would just like to let the parking department, the maintenance staff, or whomever is in charge know that this trek across the UTM landscape, and your paramount incompetence on maintaining the grounds, cost students to be late for class and it endangers their personal safety.

Clearly, there is an enormous problem with the parking at UTM that students have tried to comprehend for years. The parking department has a problem, and the first step is to admit it.

## Anonymous By Nick Maandag

[members.rogers.com/mrcam/anonymous](http://members.rogers.com/mrcam/anonymous)




# The Medium asked ... our readers responded

In last week's issue, *The Medium* asked:  
How important are boss/employee relationships?  
Do you enjoy your job?



My boss is the coolest. He holds weekly staff meetings to discuss concerns and we go out once a month to boost team spirit. *Erica*

Who really likes their boss? Honestly? Not many people do. It's a love-hate relationship. Deal with it. *Joe*

Realistically, everyone hates their job and their boss. Communication is the key to repair any conflicts between boss and employee. *Sarah*

I supervise 20 employees at a fast food restaurant. I try to treat my staff with respect and they respect me for that. As a boss, it's important to treat everyone equally. *Matt*

If a manager or supervisor doesn't have interpersonal skills it's time to look for a new career. *Jessica*

Relationships are important, especially if a company or business wants to succeed. *Arar*

\*responses were sent to medium@canada.com

Fwd To:chain\_letters@trash.com

## OPINION

By Tanaz Bhathena

In this age, having an e-mail address is almost as normal as breathing. Many of us log on at least once a week to clear out the spam and forwarded messages. The concept of forwarded messages is pretty simple. You read something and you like it so you want to share it with all of your friends. Now, I have nothing against forwarded messages; I send them too.

The messages that really bug me are chain letters. Yeah, the ones which threaten to curse you with bad luck for the rest of your life if you don't send them to everyone in your address book. The messages don't even sound authentic. It's full of typos, grammatical errors and totally illogical.

Some of you may be thinking, so what? Can't you take a joke? Sure I can. Most chain letters are laughable. But, there are people who are superstitious. In fact, sometimes these people send multiple copies of the same message, which is not funny at all. A friend of mine is famous for sending chain mail. In the beginning, I used to just ignore it and delete the messages. Then one day, I got a chain letter from more than ten people, which filled my mailbox to its maximum limit. I was seriously annoyed.

Another common chain letter is an 'Administrative message' from Hotmail staff to those of us who have accounts. The 'Hotmail staff member' warns you to forward the message to all other hotmail users on your list. If you fail to do so, your account will be deleted the next day. Why are there spelling mistakes in the message? Secondly, doesn't Hotmail have a master address through which account holders are automatically notified about potential e-mail threats? Thirdly, if all Hotmail accounts were to shut down, wouldn't there be enough chaos to generate an article in the newspaper about it?

I bet some of you are yawning by now and thinking, what's the point of all of this?

The point is, an important message may not reach your inbox because it is cluttered with forwarded messages. You may be scaring your superstitious friends for no reason. The point is that you are adding to the junk in your friend's inbox. In short, quit sending chain mails. Get a life.

# It's time to lather up and wash those hands

## OPINION

By Maria McDonald

I'm disgusted. I feel dirty. After using the washroom facilities in the South Building, I was appalled to see women coming out of the bathroom stalls and leaving without washing their hands. Just knowing that I may have touched the same door handle, railing, desk or chair turns my stomach.

Didn't the recent outbreak of SARS or the flu teach people a lesson?

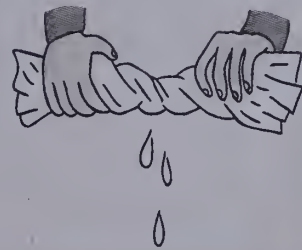
Why do people find washing their hands such a chore? I read that only 67 per cent actually do wash before leaving the restroom.

These startling results were based out of a survey and observational study conducted for the American Society of Microbiology's Clean Hands Campaign. Humans can carry millions of microbes on their hands.

Many are harmless, but you can catch illnesses like colds, the flu and diarrhea.

Hand washing is mostly a matter of common sense. We all have common sense. You wouldn't be at university if you didn't. Lather up!

Using those hand sanitizers don't count. They don't replace hand washing under a running tap and using soap. Hand sanitizers should only be used in emergencies, when you don't have access to proper facilities.



# Complaints directed at UTM are petty, unfair

## OPINION

By Joshua Lougheed-Laycock

For nearly two years now I have read *The Medium* consistently, and although I'm sure they exist, I can hardly remember an issue where someone isn't complaining about something at UTM; whether it's the school's policy, staff, faculty or facilities. This most recent issue is no exception.

I wholeheartedly agree that there are many things that need attention at U of T and UTM, some more than others. What concerns me is how surprised everyone seems to be that these troubles exist, as if this institution is supposed to be problem free simply because we pay tuition. Did these students not attend information sessions or have a wonder around campus while school was in session? If they had, they would have seen very clearly that there is a parking problem, or that the line for food at lunch can be a little long.

A little investigation doesn't seem inappropriate considering one would be dedicating the next four years or so of their life attending this campus. These problems aren't hidden from potential students. Some of the problems identified by students are baseless or simply unfair. I remember a student unhappy that it took nearly five minutes for her to receive a salad during lunch hour from the Blind Duck. You aren't the only person who has placed an order. They could pre-make all the salads for you then they'd get it for serving soggy food.

The most recent complaint I read about just this week was a student upset at the university for not identifying students need to sleep in. Are

you joking? The vast majority of students not only have morning classes, but also work at least one job. I myself work two. I'm not sure what classes this person is taking so I will give them the benefit of the doubt, but I find it hard to believe that they are up until 3 a.m. doing homework every night of the week.

Even if they are, school is all about sacrifice and dedicating everything you have to getting your degree. Are you going to ask your employer to push back the work day so you can have your nightlife? You might as well get used to it now. It's not that hard if you really want it.

I think too many of us spend way too much energy complaining about this school rather than being thankful we are able to attend one of the best institutions in Canada, if not the world. We did, after all make the decision to attend this school, and if so many people know how much better it is at other schools, by all means, go there and make room for someone here who will appreciate it.

As for the tuition problem, yes, it is high, but good things cost money, and if we put our energy into school rather than complaining, we'll more than make up for it when we graduate.

The school knows there are problems, and they're working on them. I know sometimes it seems like the school forgets they are running a business and maybe they can work on that too, but lets help them by graduating and continuing the excellence associated with the University of Toronto.

Be thankful for where we are, a great many students get turned away each year....and have to go to York!

## CORNER

CLUBS

For the week of January 26-30

February 3 - Baptist Student Ministries and Erindale Christian Fellowship are holding from 12 - 3:30 p.m. a free movie showing of "The Gospel of John" in the Student Centre Presentation Room

OUT @ UTM now have office hours in the S.E.C. office (Student Centre) addressing QUEER issues.  
Got questions? Wanna chat? Visit us!  
Mondays: 2 - 3p.m., 5 - 6p.m.  
Tuesdays: 5 - 7p.m. Thursdays: 4 - 6p.m.

The next ECSU Clubs Meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday February 5 from 5 - 7p.m. in the Student Centre Meeting Room. All clubs must attend.

CLUBS

CORNER

# U of T M RESIDENCE COUNCIL'S Annual General Meeting

When: Wednesday, February 25th @ 10pm

Where: Colman Lounge

Everyone, residence student or not is welcome to attend. We will be reviewing our performance for the year to date, and will be going over our budget. Refreshments will be provided.

## Rez Council Budget

### Revenue Sources

<i>Fee Collection</i>	\$ 15,240
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### Allocations

<i>Executive Honoraria</i>	\$ 1,700
<i>Destination Dominican Formal</i>	\$ 5,000
<i>Administration</i>	\$ 1,000
<i>Office Setup</i>	\$ 1,000
<i>Layover for next year</i>	\$ 3,000
<i>Activities</i>	\$ 3,540



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## U of T's 2004 Drama Fest sparks creativity and ignites interest

By Marina Sigareva

At the annual U of T Drama Festival, which ran from Jan. 28 to 31 at Hart House Theatre, actors mounted original student written one-act plays. The Festival had Ann-Marie Kerr adjudicate ten productions. Kerr, a well-known actor, director, and teacher – starred in *Chekhov Longs...In the Ravine* and teaches at the National Theatre School. She commented on the strengths and weaknesses of each play. Here's a summary of this year's productions:

## St. Michael's College Drama Society

Even a well written play suffers without a good director. The festival's opener, *Broken Moon*, did not have a great script or a good director. Although the script had an interesting storyline, it lacked in dialogue. Lines like, "It's good!" "It's not." "It's good," doesn't make for exciting theatre.

*Broken Moon*, set in 1969, tells the



story of Jane and her brother Jack. Both characters had to rearrange their lives after their mother abandoned them. When their mother returns they must rearrange their lifestyle once again.

The production, directed by the company, lacked clarity and sincerity. Most actor's nervous movements seemed forced and static. Jack (played by Lucas Lopez) and especially his mother Cynthia (Lisa Ball) floundered on stage, physically, and with their 'New York' accents.

Better costumes, and a more passionate performance would have enlivened Jane's character, played by Laura Cockburn, who is also the playwright. One redeeming aspect of the production was Efraim Klamph's perfor-

mance as an autistic neighbour boy named Ben. Klamph's focused performance completely transformed him physically.

He used hand movements convincingly to convey his affected mindset. Klamph managed to rise above both the script and his peers.

More practice and preparation, and an outside eye, would certainly have benefited this ensemble.

## companytheatreccrisis

A *Simple Solution* did not have a detailed set – only two chairs with wheels and a wooden desk. The play did not have creative costuming – two characters wore black dress pants and white dress shirts, and one wore jeans and a ratty hooded sweatshirt. Despite the simple details, Anthony Furey (playwright and director) managed to construct a professional piece.

The three actors – Nicholas Carella, Aaron Forward, and Matt White – maintained an explosive chemistry throughout the quick (albeit at times confusing) script. The tight, humorous writing allowed them to keep a crisp pace.

Carella and Forward, who play confused men on a mission to rid the world of sleazy scum, were cast perfectly in their roles. White elevates the play to a very high level when he is finally given a chance to speak. White has an impeccable talent for speech – the audience sat riveted through his monologues.

Though Furey needs to fix a few plot details, the actors don't need to change one thing.

## Hart House Drama Society

Kerr called this one-woman show, "a big achievement...a nuanced performance." *Losing Berlin* follows a German woman who, during the course of the Second World War, realizes her loyalty should be to herself and to humanity, not to her Nazi husband and the country.

She betrays her husband to save Jewish children, after an incident involving her husband and a Jewish boy plagues her conscience. Playwright and actor Kara Dymond wrote the script with the belief, "that good writing acts as a social criticism, offering an opportunity for self-reflection." This script achieves that, although a few possible shifts of monologues would make a further impact, and an even more poignant story.

A few parts of this production is in need of some work – the clumsy set, the somewhat unfinished German accent, the character's (an etiquette teacher) graceless stride – seem minor compared to the feeling one gets at the end of *Losing Berlin*.



## VTSC Drama Society

Following *Bowling for Columbine* and *Elephant*, *Paul's Gun* examines the very current issue of gun control in America. Only here, there is no motive, no real desire to harm. Paul (Tom Nittoly) is a nine-year-old boy who finds his uncle's gun, and decides to play with it for awhile.

The quirky, funny script partly leaves issues unexamined. The random use of cussing takes away from the deftly established innocence of the characters. But the message is still there.

The actors all seem real and all are interesting, even the ones that seem like caricatures or stock characters. The most developed character is Lenny (Aaron Ballantine), the grocery store owner. Most in need of adjustment is Uncle Lewis (Andrew Epstein), whose voice and actions do not correspond to his personal history. His costume looked drab and wanting (for me, smart costumes add sophistication to any production).

The one odd thing is Nittoly's choice to make Paul seem dumber and weaker than he is, as if he's somehow mentally challenged, when he so definitely is not.

## Erindale Drama Club



## Drama Festival Awards handed out

## President's Award for Best Production:

*A Preposterous Watch* by Victoria College Drama Society

## Robert Gill Award for Best Direction:

Natasha Mynowych for *wreck'd* by companytheatreccrisis

## Robertson Davies Playwriting Award:

Kara Dymond for *Losing Berlin* by Hart House Drama Society

## Hart House Theatre Award for Best Performance:

Kara Dymond for *Losing Berlin* by



Hart House Drama Society

## I.A.T.S.E. Award for Technical Achievement:

*The Atmosphere of Evil* by Erindale Drama Club

## Awards of Merit -

Jesse Calvert - Direction -

*Losing Berlin*

*Living Arrangements - Ensemble*  
UTSC Drama Society

Efraim Klamph - Performance -  
*Broken Moon* -  
St. Michael's College Drama Society

*The Atmosphere of Evil* - Co-Creation -  
Erindale Drama Club

Andrew Tyler - Playwriting - *Paul's Gun* -  
UTSC Drama Society

The Ensemble of *La Belle Artiste* - Artistic Achievement -  
Erindale Drama Club

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# Burlington punks keep it real patriotic



BY JENNY JOLIE AND  
NADINE McDONALD

Burlington-based band **Jersey** played in **Toronto** last Thursday - they opened for California's **Yellowcard** and **Eve 6**.

Amidst sound checks before the show, **The Medium** talked to **Sean McNab** (guitarist/vocalist) in the lobby of the **Opera House**.

**The Medium:** Well, let's get started. We were just interested in how your song writing process actually goes?

**Sean McNab:** When we write songs we used to all collaborate from the beginning to the end. But now it's like, one person will bring a frame of a song and we'll all make little changes here and there - and leave the next part for somebody else. We all take our turns.

**M:** Like a collaboration.

**S.M.:** Yeah, exactly. So there's not just one songwriter - it's everybody.

**M:** Being a **Canadian** punk band, how does it feel to be compared to your contemporaries like **Alexisonfire**, **Not By Choice**, **Sum 41**?

**S.M.:** Umm....

**M:** Are you compared a lot?

**S.M.:** Not, not so much. Not to any of those bands.

**M:** Well not to them musically, but to be a part of the **Canadian** punk scene...

**S.M.:** I don't know...

**M:** It's only just getting recognized though, like abroad. This is something that's been going on in **Canada** underground for a long time, and it's just starting to break in areas in **Europe**...

**S.M.:** How do I feel about us breaking? It's amazing. Forever there were no bands touring out of the country - I mean we were touring the States, and it was almost like we were one of the only bands, there were only a few.

And we all kinda like, knew each other because we were the touring bands of **Canada**. But now it's crazy. There are probably six or seven bands from our hometown, **Burlington**.

**M:** Is there a big music scene in **Burlington**?

**S.M.:** It's been going for years, and usually it gets really good, and a couple years it will fizzle out. **Burlington** is like that.

**M:** How did you come up with the name "Jersey"?

**S.M.:** Jersey is like - we're all into hockey, where you pull a shirt over a guys head. You know, "Jersejing".

**M:** What are your personal musical influences?

**S.M.:** Personally I like everything. Except happy hardcore, dance.

**M:** Any big names?

**S.M.:** **The Clash** were a big one. **Stiff Little Fingers**... **Minor Threat**, that old hardcore stuff.

**M:** What makes you proud to be in **Jersey**?

**S.M.:** Proud to be in **Jersey**? Just being able to go to **Europe** and the States and having all the tours that we've done.

Go to **London, England** and have the kids know the words to our songs and sing along. That was the proudest thing that has probably ever happened. Our first show in **England**.

**M:** Where did you play in **England**?

**S.M.:** Pretty much everywhere. **London, Leeds**....

**M:** Did you just finish the video for 'Saturday Night'?

**S.M.:** Yeah, that was right before the tour, like two days before. We had to squeeze that in there.

**M:** How was your experience with that?

**S.M.:** It was amazing actually. Videos are kind of a pain in the ass, because they're long and boring. We got there at 7:30 in the morning and they didn't need us until 5 in the afternoon - we were just walking around. It was just so boring.

A big issue for us, was how many extras were going to show

up, because we had late notice and that was a huge part of the video. But actually, too many showed up. It was awesome, so it looks really good.

**M:** Was it filmed here in **Toronto**?

**S.M.:** Yeah, in some like warehouse. Kind of like a studio that they made look like a pub.

**M:** Did you always dream of being in a band? If **Jersey** hadn't worked out, where do you think you would be right now?

**S.M.:** If **Jersey** didn't work out I'd probably be working in a box factory right now. For sure.

I had a co-op job to be an industrial designer, and I got offered a career job right when I got offered a spot in **Jersey**. So I had to kinda choose one, and...

**M:** You chose the right one.

**S.M.:** Well I would probably be making more money...

**M:** What are some of your favourite bands at the moment?

**S.M.:** A band called **The Reason**. They're going in the studio next month, and might be coming out on my record label. I'm listening to them.

**Eve 6**. I never would have thought I would love **Eve 6**, but we've totally become like best friends with them. They put on a great show, they're an amazing band. I never would have thought. We were on tour with **Gob** and I fell in love with them again.

**M:** How does it feel to be on tour again?

**S.M.:** Great! All I ever want to do is be on tour. I'd rather be on the road than be at home, but it is always nice to come home for a little bit.

**M:** Have you had a lot of experience with touring?

**S.M.:** Yeah, we used to tour seven months of the year, before we were signed. We were eating out of cans.

**M:** What do you do on your downtime?

**S.M.:** I play golf...I work part-time at a golf-course. I bartend at a bar in **Burlington** that I book bands at too, called **Moe's Tavern**. That's about it. I just go to shows.

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# Linkin Park wows fans with spectacular performance at ACC

BY HEATHER FITTANTE

Saturday Jan. 24, 2004 saw the Air Canada Centre absolutely packed, and for once it wasn't for a hockey game.

The venue was approximately half full to witness the opening band, **Story of the Year**. If you're into emo/screamo, then this would have been a treat for you.

The five-man group was absolutely full of energy and seemed truly excited to play for this large audience. Three of the songs by the band that seemed to stand out are entitled 'Anthem of our Dying Days,' 'In the Shadows' and

'Until the Day I Die.' Surprisingly, the band did a cover of 'Enter Sandman' by **Metallica**, and to say the least, it was fantastic. Quoting a musician sitting near me, "That (cover) was fucking stellar - they should ONLY do covers." Obviously she's not into screamo. That's cool. All in all, an enjoyable performance from a little-known band for those of us who do like the genre.

Although I didn't really stick around to watch **Hoobastank** and **P.O.D.** (there was a Leafs game to be caught on one of the nice high definition t.v.'s at the ACC), you can bet I wouldn't miss **Linkin Park** for anything.

Opening the set with the opening track from **Meteora**, 'Foreword,' just built the anticipation of what was to come. 'With You' was the track that really opened the set, and got the crowd going.

I've seen many concerts and games at the ACC, but I have never seen a crowd cheer so loudly for anything there before. 'Paper Cut' was dedicated to the long-time fans of Linkin Park. About midway through the show, the band decided to pull a member from the audience to help them play 'Faint.'

The young guy chosen from the crowd did an excellent job - I would have been terrified standing there in front of a couple thousand people playing with a band this big. But he did, and he did it well.

After playing a wide variety of songs from both albums, the band said their thank-you's and left the stage. Since they didn't play the single that initially got them noticed, I figured they'd be back. They did come back, with a big surprise for any die-hard fans. The song 'My December' opened the encore, and was beautifully done - a piano, soft vocals: a total change of pace from the



excitement that had built over the past hour.

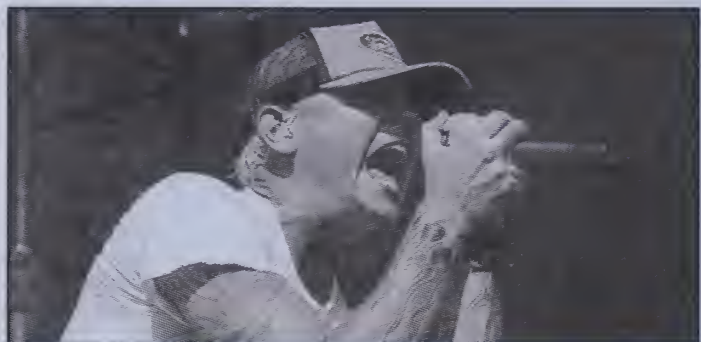
The second song into the encore was 'Pushing Me Away,' followed by 'A Place for my Head.' They closed out the amazing encore with 'One Step Closer,' in which the singers from the opening bands joined them onstage to perform.

At first I was a little sceptical about a live performance from this band. Knowing that they employ a lot of technology in the production of their albums, I wondered how this would transfer over to a live performance.

I also wondered about the singer's voice - he sings with a lot of force, and I truly wondered how long he could keep this up for.

I really shouldn't have doubted the talent that Linkin Park truly has - lyrically and musically. It was an absolutely amazing concert, well worth every penny I paid for my ticket.

Walking out of the ACC, I was surrounded by the resonating echoes of comments like "best concert ever". If you enjoy Linkin Park and get the chance to see them, don't pass it up.



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## Not just another boy band from Orlando



Anberlin  
*Blueprints for the Black Market*  
Tooth and Nail Records 2003

BY CINDY COSENTINO

As of the past decade or so, Orlando's become known for its ability to spew out one pop act after another. But no need to fear, **Anberlin**, a quintet made up of guys ranging from ages 16-26 shows that residents of Orlando don't just sing happy-go-lucky pop tunes.

Anberlin's debut album **BlueprintsForTheBlackMarket**, is an eclectic mix of sounds and inspirations.

Drawing from '80s rock and contemporary hard rock sounds, **Blueprints** takes off with 'Readyfueled,' an energized tune that takes you to a carefree time in your life. 'Foreign Language' is then followed and leaves you humming the catchy chorus for days. Its message is one all guys and gals can relate to, as it refers to the difficulty the two sexes have communicating with one another.

But the music on this album is not all upbeat. It incorporates darker, heavier sounds on songs like 'Change

the World (Lost Ones)', to convey the message that we do have the power to make a positive change.

Songs like 'Autoban' are timeless in its message of being so in love that you don't have any cares other than just living in the moment. Anberlin even pay tribute to one of their influences, **The Cure**, by covering 'Love Song.' Other than the slight difference in each lead singer's voice, I really didn't see a difference between the two.

Although I'm not sure why Anberlin chose to keep the song in its original form, one can at least say they didn't destroy what some may find a classic '80s tune.

Anberlin manages to write music that people of all ages can relate to. They leave the listener the opportunity to interpret the messages in their songs, which draw from many influences, including relationships and religion.

Anberlin strays away from some of the fluff we've seen in the music industry as of late. Rather impressive was lead singer **Stephen Christian's** ability to convey the intensity of the music through his range in tone to match each song.

Upon listening to the first couple of songs I really wasn't sure what I thought of the music. During my second listen I thought "hey this is pretty good stuff" and found myself intrigued to listen to the entire album. They manage to bring a sort of familiarity with their music. You feel as though you've been listening to these guys for years.

Anberlin have been together as a band for a year and compose their own music. Their management hopes to have their sophomore album released internationally. You can presently purchase their album at [www.anberlin.com](http://www.anberlin.com) or any internet music store. Have a listen!



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## FEATURES

## Interview with playwright and actor Leanna Brodie

BY DAVID DISHART

I stood over my phone, holding in my hand the phone number of Leanna Brodie written on a piece of paper. I looked over at my bleary-eyed hound and said, "Well here I go," and the next thing I knew, a voice said "Hello." At that moment I stepped into a new realm: for the first time, I was embarking on an interview with a published author.

As we exchanged initial pleasantries, Brodie apprised me of the situation by warning me she was on a cordless phone and that, if it should cut out, I would just have to call her back. To be fair, I warned Brodie that she was talking to a writer conducting his first interview with an author, so not only was I nervous but I was also excited about having such an opportunity.

**Question (Q):** Where did you initially get your inspiration or influence that actually started the writing process?

**Answer (A):** It's a complex play so there are a lot of answers to that question. The impetus to writing came from...it was around my 13th birthday. As an actor, like many other actors in this country, I had been drawn to writing but hadn't really gotten around to it. In terms of the inspiration for that play, I had some characters kicking around for a while. The theme came out of the Bernardo trials in a funny sort of way because none of the characters represent anyone involved in the murder trials; I didn't want to talk about anyone in the murder trials. I was fascinated by all of the women involved in that case and the public reaction to them: the appallingly reductive media treatment of the murdered girls, with Kristin French as *The Good Girl* and Leslie Mahaffy as *The Bad Girl*, who got remade into a *Good Girl* when it suited the story better. Also, public and media reaction to Karla Homolka centered on *She Did It* (committed the murders) vs. *She Was Bernardo's Victim Too*. What struck me was how people took sides on this question based on very old archetypes: the Bitch-demon and the Helpless Virgin. It became a debate not about what Karla Homolka did, but about what women are capable of. And I happen to think that we're capable of pretty much anything the rest of humanity is capable of. Women are human. So when I talk about women, I'm talking about us all.

Cruelty is one of the elements of consciousness that seems to set us apart from other species. Other animals may be violent and implacable, but deliberately cruel? Not to my knowledge. Hence the two quotations at the beginning of the play: if Sylvia Plath is right (Every woman adores a Fascist! The boot in the face, the brute/Brute heart of a brute like you), and we have an inherent enjoyment of or complicity with brutality, then it is hard to be hopeful for human beings in the long haul. If Anne Frank is right (In spite of everything, I still believe that people are basically good at heart), then perhaps there is hope. I wanted to look at what causes us to be cruel to each other.

Another way of looking at it is seeing it as an examination of power and

of how a person has power in a relationship at a given moment that is not necessarily who you think it could be. That puzzles a lot of people in the play because there are people who felt that I was saying that when bad things happen to people, it's their fault, that for all victims, it's their own responsibility. If you look at it closely, I don't know that that is what I am saying. I also approached this, of course, as an actor; I wanted to create roles for women that were juicy and meaty and challenging — where everybody got to play with that idea of power. I have had so many auditions and parts. You never get, as an actress, the other side of it: what's it like to be the person who is the manipulator, who has the power. And as our society is changing, women express and experience power in different sorts of ways. It's not this Marlina Deitrick cool sexual power caused by twisting a man around your little finger and not all this bitch Joan Collins power of just cat-fighting about a man. That's all been done, and I really wasn't interested in that. I wanted to say to myself: *what do I know about power in different relationships and in many*

completely understandable to us. Barbara, who plays all of the gutsy terrifying women (laughs), said, "I don't think that I have ever been asked to do what I am doing in this scene. I don't think that I have been asked to use these muscles as an actress that I am using in this scene." That was remarkable to me; how can that be? That play is all about power; in every scene in that play, there is a reversal of power. I found that fascinating. It's not fighting over a boy, it's not use of a kind of sexual power which I find is pretty mandatory; it doesn't reflect the experience of women I know.

**Q:** As the writing process for this play was unfolding gradually, did you know that what you were writing was actually going to evolve into a full-fledged play or did you have another idea of what it was going to be in the end?

**A:** No, I didn't have an idea of what it was going to be. My first draft was 170 pages long. It was completely intuitive: I wrote down on paper everything that I was thinking and didn't allow myself to look back because writing is a very frightening process and it was my first time and I knew that if I looked back or thought *Has anyone else covered this theme in a similar way? Is this a self-indulgent examination of my own psyche that no one is going to think about?*, I never would have finished it. So, the first draft was simply about self-expression and I didn't think about what might come of it, about who would read it. It wasn't on commission; it was simply on my own.

I took about five weeks and pounded out that first draft. After the first draft, which was completely unreadable and had ten characters and a whole other story line, after that draft, I thought *alright, is there anything salvageable out of this that actually has the potential?* I went off and wrote a second draft.

After that second draft I started to look around for support. I got a grant from the Toronto Arts Council. The third draft is the one that I started sending around. It's a whole different experience as a writer then it has been as an actor.

**Q:** As you were taking various roles as an actor, when did you know that it was time to put pen to paper and see what might develop into a play?

**A:** I had been involved in collectives and I had written quite a lot before I went to university and then all of my creative writing stopped, possibly because I became aware of the weight of dramatic tradition and the tiny amount I might contribute to it (laughs), and because the analytical frame of mind is very different than the writing frame of mind. It's more a question of why it took me that long to start writing. I think the answer is that I lacked the time and the confidence and it became a question of saying to myself: *Well, it doesn't matter if I have the confidence to write, I have nothing to lose* (laughs). It became a leap of faith. I have these things that I desperately need to say and I desperately want to explore and I can't do that as an actor or I don't think these things are being written in

a way that excites me.

I thought *How bad can it be?* I have taken some roles that were huge risks, and writing was a much larger risk. I was finally old enough to think *Well, I'll be a long time dead* (laughs). However horrible the reception of this thing is going to be, how bad can it be, you know? The biggest satisfaction that I get is when a performer is excited by the challenges, so I tried to create parts that challenge actors and material that would challenge audiences and not give them any answers because I think collective brain power that is always going to be light-years beyond any answer I can come up with. I just wanted to throw out there the things that trouble.

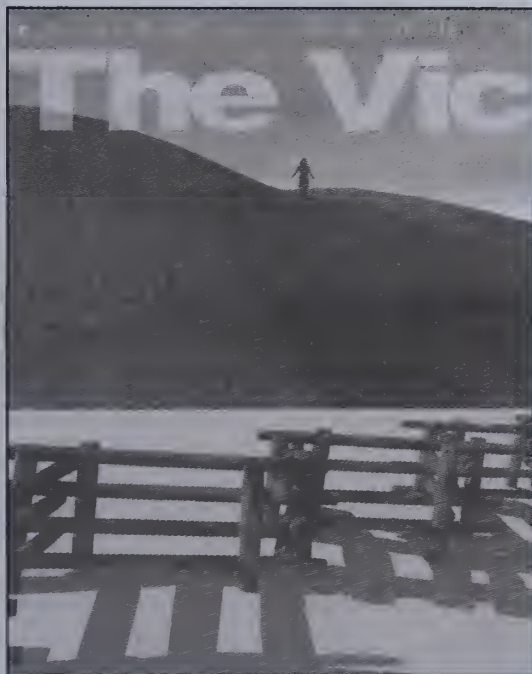
**Q:** Did you have a vision of how the play would be staged as your writing process was becoming more refined and clearer?

**A:** Yes, I had a pretty clear vision

of many elements of the staging, but I didn't want to impose that. For example, I put in as few stage directions as I thought I could possibly get away with. I really wanted my collaborators to bring their vision. I am not a designer and I am definitely not a director. I am just going to tell them what I see and they can figure out how to do it, because that is not my problem and I have faith in the theatre (laughs).

**Q:** The actors will obviously have their own individual conceptions of how their particular character should be staged, and the director and designers will envision their own concept of the stage setting. I am wondering, knowing that these members of the theatre have their own individual points of view on such elements, are there limitations within your text that put forth an interpretation of what you had in mind for each character?

*continued on page 12*



The cover art for *The Vic* by Leanna Brodie, published by Talonbooks, is suggestive of several of the play's storylines. The eight women characters are all challenging roles.

*different ways that I don't think have necessarily been explored.* It's not meant to be a definitive statement about who women are and how we address power. It was my exploration of things that hadn't been explored to my satisfaction. I can let other people do the bitch Joan Collins kind of thing, it's not really my forte.

And in that regard, a big impetus was when I did a scene study with R.H. Thomson and this wonderful dramatic actress named Barbara Gordon who is currently doing *Written on Water* at CanStage. She and I were doing this class together and we did a scene from David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*. We sort of did it on a dare from R.H. Thomson — he said this is so male, it's all about power 'testosterone drenched head-butting' and we were both intrigued by that. Barbara is a very powerful actress and I am kind of a mouthy feminist. So I thought, what is it that's so male about that and let's explore it. What we found when we explored the scene was that if you took away the language, if you took away the fact that the characters are saying fuck every second word (which was hard to translate into female terms: if we were working in that real estate office that's not how we would talk), the dynamics of the scene were

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# Author of *The Vic* discusses its meaning and origin

continued from page 11

A: No, this text is a blue-print, and the actors, designers and the director have to take that blue-print and make it into a building, and I would much rather go and look at a building. They're going to have their interpretation and that's what the text is there for, and if it is something that I had envisioned then so much the better. They build their house or building while paying careful attention to the blueprint; if I design a house, I am going to be taken aback if I come and see that they have built a swimming pool. If they have the skills and the attention to detail to figure out what it is in the text and not just make broad generalizations based on *Oh, I want to play a Joan Collins bitch role, let me find a way to do it with this play*; if they are attentive of what's actually there then they should take it and run with it with my blessing. I am not familiar with the designers and the actors (for the Theatre Erindale production), but Rebecca Brown is a very fine director.

With these roles, I was also inspired by Shakespeare (laughs) because he allows so much room for the actor to perform. He doesn't dictate to you that Richard the III must be a jaded sophisticate; he allows you to fill the performance with yourself. There are so many ways to play all of the characters and in my own tiny way I wanted to leave that opportunity. An example of that: when we had the first production, I had envisioned Darsana as a very sophisticated, very elegant character – sort of a Peter O'Toole (laughs) – who dazzles people with her elegance and her style. When Ann Holloway played the role she was earthy and gritty and nasty and she was larger than life in a very coarse energetic sort of way. I took a look at it and I thought: *That's not how I saw it all, but it works so why not?* So if people surprise me with these parts, that's great, if it comes from them.

Someone who has had a great influ-

ence on my acting is Laszlo Marton at Soulpepper. He's a wonderful Hungarian director and he talks about approaching the character from yourself first. Look at yourself and what you would do, then you can layer on the limitations or particularities in that character. But always begin with yourself. It is an important clue that if you say to yourself: Alright, in this situation I would be a coward, I wouldn't look at her, I'd speak to her like this. Therefore, you find yourself speaking as quietly and slowly as you can because you'd rather not be there. At which point the director might say: Alright, that felt very authentic; however, how can we modify that? The situations I have placed these characters in are very primal: mothers and daughters, guru and the protégé, the lovers – they're very primal. It's all about individual choice. I am putting all the responsibility on them and taking very little for myself.

Q: The stage directions in the play-text are concise; they are part of the play and you put them in for a reason. What would your reaction be if a director had given the actors their copy of a script (of any play for any theatrical production), but had blacked out the stage directions? Do you have any reaction to that maneuver?

A: I used to do it all the time myself; I was quite adamant about it when I started my career. And I think there are situations where it is definitely helpful. I have actually had to deal with the stage direction 'smiles imperceptibly' or, in one case, a 'smile of understanding, which is not necessarily a smile of agreement' (laughs). Now if you can figure out what to do with that, I'll give you the Oscar. At this point in my career, as an actor, and particularly with this play I would approach that with caution. I would say that before blacking them out, I would look at them carefully.

There are two kinds of stage directions: there are notes to the actor on the tenor and there are visual clues. I would try to take in all of those and see if there is anything there. If you achieve the same result in a different way then I think, yes, you are still honoring the intention of the playwright. However, if you are simply ignoring them as a blanket policy, I think you are missing something that the author has put there for your benefit and you may be missing something about the scene, particularly if it is something that is not obvious but is crucial to the rest of that scene. Look at them first very carefully.

Q: One critic has said the play is about "four wildly differing stories, united by a melodramatic device: the search for a missing girl." Hence the title: 'vic' as in 'victim.' As I was reading the play and came to confront that line, I thought that this was a rather limited way for the critic to assess the play; I don't see the search as being the purpose for the title. I thought that each of the female characters was a victim at particular places in their individual lives. I wonder how you would react to that critic's statement and my interpretation.

A: First of all, your statement is always right because you are the audience, and if you are bringing more critical intelligence to bare and you're paying attention to the text, then your reaction wouldn't be limited to whether it was what I intended or not. So, absolutely your point of view is right. Well, that critic has the right to his opinion and if he thought that it didn't work then that's fine. The title of *The Vic*, which everyone who worked on it hated by the way, until I finally said, "Okay, you come up with something." They went away and, at the end of the week-long workshop, they came back and, well, at the time it was called *Vic* and they said "How about *The Vic*?" (laughs). I said

"Alright, that's just fine" (laughs); after all their bitter complaining, they came up with the *THE* (laughs).

I had been stuck when I watched these American cop shows with the 'perp' and the 'vic'; it was a hell of a way to sum up someone's life. Of course, these cops come up with these terms because they have to deal with these things and desensitize themselves. But it brought me back to the media coverage of that trial and so many other trials where people get put into different roles; specifically, it is often my experience that women are slotted into roles such as girlfriends, for example. It doesn't express the complexities of the relationship; a victim is never an absolute victim – a victim is a victim in a particular relationship. So, to describe a person as a victim is never accurate. It's not to take away their victim-hood, it's not to deny their victim-hood, but it's to assert their essential humanity.

The title is also ironic, for me, because, yes, anyone in any of those relationships can be described as a victim, but in any of these relationships you don't know who the victim is. Yes, Elise is a victim of Spud's violence; however, Elise is also a master manipulator who uses her class and education as a weapon; there is a class struggle going on in that relationship. She uses her vocabulary; she uses grammar as a weapon, for heaven's sake. I wanted to look at complicated adult relationships. Tanis is the victim of a terrible campaign, but on the other hand, my question is how much free will she had in that situation. That is my question about these cults: what the hell are these women doing? I read a book by Doctor Mark Galanter; he frequently refuses parental requests to deprogram people because he says they haven't been programmed to begin with: they have chosen to be there. His research questions the validity of brainwashing and how do you separate that from other so-called legitimate religions. So, yes,

I wanted to look at complex relationships where there is not a good guy or a bad guy. So, the title of *The Vic* is ironic.

Also, without giving anything away to your readers, there is at least one person in the play who is the victim of a terrible action and hasn't asked for it – not that anyone has asked for it – but has no complicity in her victimhood, none at all as far as I can tell. She has been picked up by the hand of God and punched in the head, which is a metaphor that I borrowed from *Howard the Duck*. There are things that just happen to people and I wanted to address that reality as well.

Q: Is there anything else that you would like to add that perhaps I haven't touched on?

A: I hope that your actresses find the book satisfying. I hope that your audiences find that there is stimulating discussion. and (long pause) I hope that maybe there are particularly women who are going to start writing, that there is a place for what they need to say in the theatre because it's tough; you never know what the response is going to be. It can make you feel violently ill with fear (laughs) of exposing those raw nerves but I think that in the end you can say that you have expressed something.

Also, Talon Books that published *The Vic* are publishing my next play in the fall of this year. It is called *For Home and Country* and it is about the history of a rural Canadian women's organization, but I promise it is really fun anyway.

Leanna Brodie will be visiting UTM this Wednesday, February 4. In addition to speaking with a few classes, she will read from *The Vic* at noon in the theatre, as part of the Humanities at Noon series. Theatre Erindale's production of *The Vic* finishes its run this week, also at the campus theatre.

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## Student shares experience of being homeless beggar

BY MELISA BAYON

Last Monday, members of the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) and Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights (SPHR) brought the problem of homelessness to UTM. In an effort to make students see the issue as real, students played the role of homeless people along the five-minute walk, begging for change. Although the volunteers made requests to passers-by as though they needed the money themselves, the collection was for charity.

My experience with being homeless was relatively short, but long enough to notice the way people look at you and pass by you as you are sitting there asking for change. It is very similar to ways that I walk by a homeless person, depending on whether I have change in my pocket or not. When I don't have change, or just enough to take the bus, I walk by and either say that I don't have anything and feel terrible (as many students did) or I don't pay attention. I hate it when people do that, but I find that when I have a bad day, as I sometimes do, I think about the whole situation and I feel kind of helpless. There are so many homeless people in Toronto that you feel helpless.

I think I was playing my role well on Monday. I had 2 sleeping bags (one for the floor and one around my shoulders), and a checkered blanket to get

me warmer; it turned out to look really real. I covered my head, stretched my hand out with a cup and asked for change. The one thing that kept me going in asking for change was the fact that the proceeds went to help victims of the Iran earthquake.

I only spent about 15 minutes sitting in the snowy outdoors, but those 15 minutes were enough to elicit a variety of responses from people. Most students that walked past me seemed truly sorry for me! It was amazing. Some

**"Most students that walked past me seemed truly sorry for me! It was amazing."**

asked if I was cold, others told me that it was an amazing thing to do. Some seemed to feel obliged to give, and some gave willingly. Others just walked past me without even looking at my face. I felt totally comfortable and not shy at all for some reason. Some passed by, took a glance at me, smiled and walked on.

On a negative note, there were students who scoffed when asked for change, and some muttered, "What are they doing here?" as though the student volunteers were really homeless people, and shouldn't be on campus.

What I liked most about my experience was the fact that I wasn't moving and others were. I felt totally different than the mobile person I usually am. It was a different role, way below other people as they looked down on me; the physical dimension of it all had an impact on me. It was an experience worth having.



P O E T R Y

## WinterFest

BY MARIAM MUNAWAR

Icy winds, blowing snow,  
Numb fingers, freezing nose,  
I slowly push my way through a heavy  
revolving door  
And a snowless winter wonderland slowly  
unfolds:

No more icy winds, no more blowing snow,  
I walk inside and the warmth begins to  
encompass me;  
No more numb fingers, no more freezing  
nose,

I become entranced within the sudden joviality  
As I am welcomed by a green lizard,  
-A fellow student in disguise-  
To SAC UTM's WinterFest,  
An event of jollity and exciting surprise

Music and laughter fill my ears;  
I find myself encircled within the happiness of my  
excited peers

As they humorously bash and wrestle with each other  
In comical costumes so big and large,  
Making me laugh so ever hard,  
The hilarity making my eyes overflow with happy  
tears.

I amble towards a slender girl,  
Swirling pink cotton fluff  
Treating others and then me  
To a delectable cane of cotton candy.  
I take a bite of the sugary fluff  
And find myself happily dizzy with  
The luscious flavor of the pink bonbon.  
I skip and hop,  
I shout and laugh,  
And come upon a foosball match  
Surrounded on all sides by an energized throng.  
I begin competing with the thrilled mass,  
Encompassed madly by the gaiety abound,  
Until I saunter towards a stand,  
Where pizza and pop are being sold for the victims of  
Bam

I regain my senses,  
My sanity has come back,  
Happiness is here,  
But not somewhere else;  
Warmth may be with me,  
But not with those trapped within the ruined state of  
Iran.

With a drooping face I walk outside  
And I almost trip over a young man in fright,  
A fellow student in a mock disguise,  
Lying down, shivering intensely,  
All snow-covered,  
Begging for money,  
Not for himself but for the true needy.

I drop a coin and walk away  
From the WinterFest that makes me say  
That although there is fun with me today  
There is no fun for many others, here and away.  
And as I walk towards a building  
I smile at my regained understanding,

SAC UTM, you've made me think,  
With that bit of fun,  
And that strong humanitarian message hidden within.

(Editor's note: We also recognize the contribution of the  
Erindale College Student Union to WinterFest's success)

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## Day of action to address student debt

BY DEANA HATHOUT

"My total student debt is \$37,252. That's a MORTGAGE! How am I ever going to get ahead?" said Aubrey Iwaniw, an environmental management student in her final year of studies.

Aubrey is not alone. The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) estimates that, on average, a student completing a four-year program will accumulate \$25,000 of debt, a figure that inflated 300 per cent since 1990.

What do rising tuition costs mean? Simply stated: the great minds of the future will need to have great pockets to match.

A recent study conducted by the University of Western Ontario demonstrates that, following deregulation of professional and graduate user fees in Ontario, the number of students attending such faculties coming from low income families were cut in half. A little closer to home, one might soon expect to see a reduction in access due to the high costs of deregulated programs such as commerce or computer science here at UTM.

"With the amount of money that we're paying, we are not getting what we deserve. It's becoming increasingly apparent that there is a disproportionate allocation of resources favoring some programs over others. All students in all programs should be treated equally," said second-year computer science student Zeeshan Baig.

Regulation or not, many students agree that tuition fees are bordering on unaffordable. In the most recent ranking of universities conducted by Maclean's, U of T scored 39 out of the 47 schools ranked with

regard to cost of undergraduate tuition within the faculty of arts and science. Furthermore, Ontario has the second highest tuition fees in Canada, second only to Nova Scotia.

With promises of a two-year tuition freeze from the newly elected liberal government, some are hopeful. Others are not so impressed. Professional programs in Ontario remain the most expensive in Canada, as high as \$18,000 in some instances. Many university administrators are even lobbying

**"If students mobilize, we can make our demands heard and instigate future policy change."**

against the freeze.

"There are too many qualified students in Canada that are not attending university simply because they lack the financial means. Too many days are going by where students are facing over-crowded classes, no study space, a lack of professors and T.A.s. Things need to be changed!" said Gengiz Seyhun, Vice-President of the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) at UTM.

On Feb. 4, SAC, in conjunction with the CFS, Erindale College Student Union, Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students, Residence Council, Association of Graduate Students At Erindale and UTM Athletics Council will be mobilizing for the national Student Day of Action. The day will feature a series of events geared towards reducing student debt and tuition fees. Events are set to begin at noon and carry on until 2 p.m., during which time students are granted academic

amnesty from their classes, tests and labs.

"As university students, we are the ones that are directly affected by the policies of our governments. Therefore, we are the ones that have to take responsibility in changing the current culture of inaccessibility and under-funding," said Seyhun. "This is our only opportunity to be in solidarity with all students across Canada and to work with our administrations in lobbying the government in making post-secondary education a top priority."

Several notable guest speakers are set to motivate attendees including Simon Black, NDP MP candidate for Mississauga West, and CFS Ontario chairperson, Joel Duff. For those students who need further incentive, SAC will also be distributing t-shirts, stickers and a free lunch.

"Sure, we have a tuition freeze for the next two years, but what's stopping us from getting a tuition reduction? As part of a National Student Day of Action two years ago, we took our message straight to Queen's Park; now we have our freeze. If students mobilize, we can make our demands heard and instigate future policy change with regard to increased funding for post-secondary education," said Iwaniw.

This Feb. 4, students are asked to fight apathy and fight for the right to affordable education. The message from organizers is clear: things can and will change, only if students work together to successfully lobby and demand that change. For more information about the National Student Day of Action, drop by the SAC office in room 131 of the Students' Centre.



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## Reap the rewards of stretching

BY JAMES WALKER

Stretching is perhaps one of the most neglected parts of a workout. The best time to stretch is when you are finished exercising, but many people like to do some light stretching before they start.

While many find it tedious, stretching can be the most relaxing and rewarding part of a workout. Whether you have gone for a run or completed chest exercises in the weight room, your muscles are probably swollen and tight. If you have had a long or strenuous workout, you might even be stiff and sore the next day. Fortunately, stretching can mean the difference between a case of Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness (DOMS) and a gratifying and rewarding feeling of relaxation.

The safest way to stretch your muscles is by taking them to the limit of their natural range of motion. This point is called the soft tissue barrier, and is the point where the stretch begins. As you extend the motion past that natural point, you start to get closer to initiating a "stretch reflex" in your muscle.

The stretch reflex occurs when you stretch an area of your body beyond the naturally defined safety limits of your body. It occurs to protect muscles and joints from injury as a result of excessive strain, and essentially contracts the muscles in that area. If this occurs while you are

stretching, the muscle will contract even more than it was to begin with. Since the purpose of stretching is to gently lengthen and relax your muscles, stretching an area of your body as far as it normally goes is counterproductive and dangerous.

Stretching must always occur in a pain-free range of motion. If you feel pain anywhere, even if it is not in the area you are trying to stretch, stop and find a different, more comfortable stretch.

The two main types of stretching during a workout are stretching at the beginning, or warm-up stretching, and stretching at the end, or cool-down stretching.

Warm-up stretching generally involves a careful lengthening of the muscle through light stretches or comfortable range of motion movements. Like many other flexible materials, the warmer your muscles, they are less susceptible to damage. Flexibility comes from lengthening the muscles, increasing the blood flow, and heating up an area of your body. For example, a runner might jog on the spot to expend energy, heating up the muscles in their legs; or a squash player might rotate their foot in circles in the hopes of increasing blood flow to their feet. These activities help to prepare your body for the next stage of your workout.

If you make an allowance for any type of stretching in your workout, it

should be the cool-down stretches. These comfortable, long stretches are held for 30 seconds or more before you repeat them or work on a different area. The idea is to relax your muscles by lengthening and relaxing them, reversing the effect of the repeated contractions that were part of your workout. At the very least, you should stretch areas that you specifically focused on during your workout, like your legs if you were running, or your arms if you were doing chin-ups. The five or ten minutes you spend at the end of your workout stretching will leave you relaxed and pain-free for days!

There are additional benefits should you decide to stretch more muscles than the ones you used during exercise. Not only will you be physically and mentally more relaxed and focused, but you will be increasing your natural range of motion in those areas. Although genetics plays a big part in an individual's flexibility, practice is just as influential; anybody can become more flexible. The clearest advantage of stretching is the reduced risk of injury. There is lower chance of you hurting yourself in your daily activities, and less of a possibility that you will hurt yourself during your next workout!

*James Walker is a Personal Trainer for the UTM CPE. You can contact him at [jwalker@utm.utoronto.ca](mailto:jwalker@utm.utoronto.ca).*

## Easy romp for UTM

BY GERGIN NAOUMOV

The men's interfaculty indoor soccer team opened its season with an 8-2 win over the School of Graduate Studies (SGS). It was evident from the beginning that the game was going to be a blowout as Bruno "Woppy" Pellegrino managed to find the back of the net for a hat trick. Several first year players also scored, but their names will be mentioned when they start scoring nice goals. Nonetheless, first year players like Emmanuel Goyebi and Aldo

Borges all played well. Returning players like Sami "Willow" Gideon, Mazen "Arturo Gatti" Zaki and Nick Emini also had a strong start to the season.

Coach Axhi Emini will be looking for a better effort on the defensive end as both goals that were scored on UTM were the result of sloppy passes and mental mistakes. The veterans on the team will be looking for more 'whoas' when the team squares off against their hated rivals from Scarborough as they take on UTSC United on Feb. 4 at 9 p.m. at the Athletic Centre.



*photos/Darryl Sequeira*

UTM's Mazen Zaki (21) gets attacked by a SGS player who never read the rule book before stepping onto the court (*top picture*). Zaki then prepares to make good on his resulting free kick. UTM handily won 8-2 and play next on Feb. 4 versus UTSC.



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# Stormy week three

BY CORY ALEXANDER

Week three saw Mother Nature's furious performance out do any effort on the ball hockey floor. With the Canadian military unwilling to dig us out this time, all division one games were cancelled and two division two games were effected due to inclement weather. All games will be made up at the end of the regular season.

Abid Husain scored two first period goals and promptly got kicked out of the game as his Untouchables won their first game of the season 2-0 over the Erindale Snipers. The Snipers fell to 0-3 on the season. A notable from the game was Adriano Sgro, who set a record for high sticking whistles.

The best show of the week was the effort of the Hot Karl's against the juggernaut of The Whalers. Kevin Armstrong and Lucas Melnye fought hard, but had little chance against the twin Matt's, Capobianco's and Spiteri's, offensive defense corps. Chris Jackson's offensive show included six goals, giving him a ridiculous 6.5 goals per game.

In the only other game of the week, the Sawmill Valley Trail Blazers won handily, with a 9-4 victory over the Nordiques. Cory Johnson's eight points put him in the league lead, and outstanding efforts by Scott Reidel, Rodney Faria and Olli Lea, outdid Nordiques' point leader Fahad Mallick's four-goal performance. I guess it's off to the trail!

## BALL HOCKEY - DIVISION TWO: WESTERN CONFERENCE

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	DF	GF	PTS
SAWMILL VALLEY TB	3	2	1	0	0	21	4
SLOPPY STICK HANDLERS	2	2	0	0	0	16	4
MERCENARIES	2	1	1	0	0	5	2
UNTOUCHABLES	3	1	2	0	0	10	2
NORDIQUES	3	1	2	0	0	19	2
ERINDALE SNIPERS	3	0	3	0	0	5	0

## BALL HOCKEY - DIVISION TWO: EASTERN CONFERENCE

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	DF	GF	PTS
WHALERS	2	2	1	0	0	29	4
THE MAGIC STICKS	2	2	0	0	0	19	4
HOT KARL'S	3	0	2	1	0	13	1
KOMMERCE KILLERS	2	0	1	1	0	11	1
FIRST TEAM ALL-STARS	1	0	1	0	0	6	0

Check out *The Medium's* website  
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## EBHL TOP 10 SCORERS

NAME	TEAM	G	A	P
Cory Johnson	SMV	8	9	17
Chris Jackson	WLR	13	2	15
Matt Capobianco	WLR	3	9	12
Cyrus Zahiri	SSH	6	5	11
Fahad Mallick	NRD	6	3	9
Nick Mandie	MS	6	3	9
Daniel Mazur	MS	5	4	9
Glenn House	SMV	7	1	8
Eric Cisarovsky	MS	5	3	8
Jon Brown	WLR	4	4	8

## TOP 10 GOAL SCORERS: DIVISION TWO

NAME	PTS	G
Chris Jackson	15	13
Fahad Mallick	9	9
Cory Johnson	17	8
Glenn House	8	7
Kevin Armstrong	7	7
Cyrus Zahiri	11	6
Nick Mandie	9	6
Eric Cisarovsky	8	5
Daniel Mazur	9	5
Alexey Borsch	6	5

## TOP 5 ASSIST LEADERS: DIVISION TWO

NAME	PTS	G
Cory Johnson	17	9
Matt Capobianco	12	9
Mark Samoszewski	8	5
Daniel Mazur	9	4
Jon Brown	8	4

This information is taken from game sheets supplied by the commissioners of each league. If names are incorrect, chances are they were illegible on game sheets. Write more legibly next time. Thanks—Commissioners & Sports Editor.

Is there a sport or a game that you'd like to have covered? Then write an article and submit it to Darryl via e-mail at [mediumsports@yahoo.ca](mailto:mediumsports@yahoo.ca)

Jock & Jill Talk

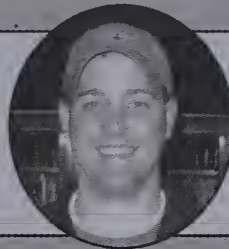
"WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NFL'S DECISION TO FINE PLAYERS FOR EXCESSIVE END-ZONE CELEBRATIONS?"

"Hey, let me show you the new Jordan end-zone dance...you know what I call that the new Jordan end-zone dance. Oh and on the subject...keep them, they are just part of the game."



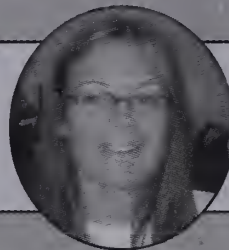
Jordan Latorre  
2nd year  
Geography

Tom Krebs  
4th year  
political Science



"End-zone celebrations should be mandatory and should earn extra points for presentation and flare. Maybe they should turn football into a competition of end-zone celebrations—oh wait, I think they call that cheerleading!"

"The guys are hot so who cares, let them celebrate."



Johanna Quinn  
4th year  
sociology

Adam Drodge  
1st year  
theatre & drama



"I think they are an essential tradition of the game. They bring a humanistic aspect to the game. Afterall, scoring a touchdown is the point of the game, why can't we celebrate a well earned booty shake?!"

photos/Darryl Sequeira

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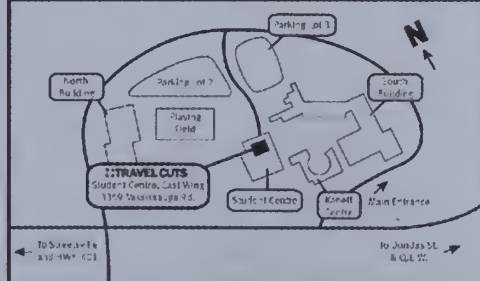
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# Lady Eagles end tournament with 2-2 record at UTSC



photos/Darryl Sequeira

UTM's Tri-Campus women's basketball team has been hard pressed this year to repeat as champions as they have faced some stiff competition from their two St. George rivals. The girls lost to St. George Blue 41-38 on Jan. 31 at UTM. Centre Lindsey Sones (55) battles hard underneath the basket as she lunges for a rebound (left), and then goes on the offensive as she takes it strong to the hole in second half action (middle). Far right, UTM's Shelley Roque (5) drains one of her second half free throws. The Lady Eagles look to get back on the winning track when they play host to their suburban rivals from Scarborough on Feb. 7 at 3:30 p.m. All fans are encouraged to attend and support the gals.

By J. SWISH

A combined Tri-Campus and division one Women's Basketball team took to the courts early Friday morning at the U of T Scarborough College's Annual OCAA Extramural Basketball Tournament. The women's team got off to a great start defeating Centennial College by three. UTM followed up that game winning another close game by defeating Sheridan College by a single point. The win was an impressive one, as the Sheridan College team has been practicing as a Varsity team this year. Sheridan's women's team is looking at getting back into the OCAA Varsity League next season.

UTM then faced the host team, UTSC in the third game of the tournament. After just eating lunch 20 minutes prior to

tip-off and UTSC coming off a 2 hour break, the UTM team came out of the gate slow and trailed the whole first half. Down by two points at half time, UTM battled back in the second half to take a slim three point lead. UTSC would not quit and playing with only 7 players they seemed to pick-up steam. UTSC took the lead with under a minute to go on a 3 point play by their guard who drove down the lane and was fouled. She hit the foul shot and sealed the win for UTSC. The win for UTSC was the first win by a UTSC team over UTM in a number of years and the UTM Tri-Campus team will look to get back in the win column over UTSC as they face their cross-town rivals in 2 more regular season games this term.

The loss left UTM having to beat their

U of T Tri-Campus rival, St. George Blue, by over 80 points to win the tournament. St. George was destroying their competition at the tournament by an average of +27 points a game. St. George controlled the game and won handily. With the game out of reach and knowing that UTM would be playing the same team the very next day in Tri-Campus play, UTM chose to rest their Tri-Campus players for most of the second half. The St. George win sealed the Championship title for St. George and left UTM in a battle for second overall with UTSC.

UTM had won the tournament for the previous two years running. Diana Kwong was named the UTM Fair Play player of the tournament and received a Wilson Basketball.

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## UTM has potential for successful season



photos/Darryl Sequeira

UTM's men's lacrosse team (in blue) ended up playing a scrimmage match against UTSC on Jan. 20 when the officials never showed. The match ended in a 4-4 draw which speaks volumes for UTM as they were playing with a thin bench and have a couple of rookies on the team. Their next action is on Feb. 3 at 10 p.m. versus the Faculty of Physical Education and Health at the Athletic Centre.